



Caldwell Classic 5K returns Nov. 17

The second annual Caldwell Classic 5K Run/Walk, sponsored by the House of Pius IX, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 17, at Pope John Paul II High School. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Jason Foundation, which is dedicated to the prevention of youth suicide, and the Ronald McDonald House, whose mission is to provide a home away from home for families of critically ill children receiving inpatient or outpatient medical care at Nashville area hospitals.

The race this year will include a middle school 1-mile race before the 5K. Everyone who registers will receive a Caldwell Classic II T-shirt. The cost is \$20 for the 5K and \$13 for the middle school 1-mile fun run. To register, go to <http://www.active.com/5k-race/hendersonville-tn/the-caldwell-classic-ii-2012>.

For a donation of \$150, corporate sponsors will be able to place their logo on the Caldwell Classic II T-shirt, display a banner at the event, and hand out "goodies" to all the participants. For more information about sponsorships, contact Veronica Del Valle at veronica.delvalle@jp2hs.org or Erin Riggs at [erin.riggs@jp2hs.org](mailto:riggs@jp2hs.org).

JOINING JP2 FACULTY ANSWERED PRAYER FOR MRS. SMITH

Jennifer Smith's arrival at JP2 in the fall of 2004 was the answer to a prayer. At the time, she was teaching at Hunters Lane High School, but was looking for a change. On her birthday, she said a prayer: "I know you have a plan for me and I'm ready."



Jennifer Smith

Soon after, Mrs. Smith ran into the daughter of Vivian Kommando; the two had taught together in Florida and Mrs. Kommando was on the JP2 faculty. "Two weeks after the prayer, Vivian called to say there's an opening at JP2," said Mrs. Smith, who today is chair of the English department at JP2. "It's really a God thing."

"What I appreciate at JP2 is you can be a little more creative here," Mrs. Smith said. "JP2 students are friendly. They realize teachers are on their side. There's not this combative relationship.... They challenge themselves. They are generally interested in learning."

After joining the faculty, Richard Stephenson, then the English department chair, assigned her to teach all grade levels. "That experience allowed me to really understand what's going on in all the classrooms," Mrs. Smith said, and it helped to prepare her to take over leadership of the department in 2006.

One of the goals of the English department curriculum, Mrs. Smith said, is to help students become critical readers.

STUDENTS PRESENT 'OUR TOWN'

JP2 presented its fall play, the award-winning American classic "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder, Sept. 27-30 with a cast of 21 students.

Those participating in the play included Bryan Melcher, as the Stage Manager, Emily Ernst as Emily Webb, Reuben Hoyos as George Gibbs, Evan Summers as Dr. Gibbs, Margaret Duzane as Mrs. Gibbs, Matt Lucas as Mr. Webb and Breanne Childress as Mrs. Webb.

Other cast members were: Jarrett Brooks as Howie Newsome, Phillip Baker as Simon Stimson, Ian Atkins as Sam Craig, Frank Hernandez as Constable Warren, Robin Hall as Professor Willard, Maria Alonzo as Rebecca Gibbs, Keeley Bryan as Mrs. Soames, Jaime Recheater as Joe Crowell, Caelyn Armshaw as Wally Webb, Taryn Wallace as Si Crowell, Sterling Bishir as

She's also been emphasizing teaching writing skills across the curriculum. "We want students to see writing matters in the real world," Mrs. Smith. "I think teaching writing is really exciting because you can see the progress," Mrs. Smith said. "Once you see progress, it inspires you to keep going and push yourself."

Part of that effort is the portfolio program in the English curriculum. With a portfolio, "students are tracking their own progress," Mrs. Smith said. Students will gather all their essays written for a class and at the end of the quarter they will make individual goals based on their earlier results. Those goals become part of the grading rubric for their writing, Mrs. Smith explained. "It makes them more responsible," she said. "Now, they're looking at the feedback" they get from teachers on their assignments to see where they need to improve, according to Mrs. Smith.

Mrs. Smith's interest in becoming a teacher started as a child. "I've always wanted to be a teacher," she said. "I didn't know if it was going to be as an elementary school teacher or an English teacher."

"My high school English teacher was an inspiration for me," she said. Her teacher encouraged her to take higher level English classes. While in high school, she read the novel "1984," "which was a turning point for me," Mrs. Smith said. "It opened my eyes that sometimes authors have other motives in telling stories. That was intriguing to me."

Mrs. Smith teaches five classes at JP2, including AP Language classes, creative writing and advanced 11th grade English. "I hope to open their eyes to the connection between language choices and meaning," Mrs. Smith said of her students.

the Woman in the Balcony, Sarah Brau as the Woman in the Auditorium, Laura Gierla as the Lady in the Box, and Teresa Gilstrap as Jo Stoddard.



Bryan Melcher and Breanne Childress rehearse a scene from "Our Town."



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SCHOOL FOUNDER RETURNS FOR POPE WEEK

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connect our students to that," said JP2 Headmaster Faustin Weber. "To have Bishop Kmiec here is wonderful. ... It's a rare opportunity for a school to talk directly to its founders."

At the end of the Mass, Bishop Kmiec spoke to the students about the founding of the school. The Catholic community in Middle Tennessee was growing in the late 1990s, and Bishop Kmiec commissioned a study to determine interest in a new high school and assembled a committee to start work on the project.

Another key development in the establishment of the school was the lead donation to the capital campaign of \$5 million by Ann and Monroe Carell. They were inspired to make the donation after a personal audience with Pope John Paul II that Bishop Kmiec helped arrange.

The school had hoped to honor Ann Carell at the Mass, but Mrs. Carell died earlier this year. Instead, a videotape of Mrs. Carell discussing the papal audience was shown to students and visitors after Mass.

Mrs. Carell called the papal audience "life changing."

"You wanted to be so good after that," she said. "We wanted to do something good in his honor in Nashville. Bishop Kmiec said 'I really need a new high school in Hendersonville.'"

The school's success is a credit to the generosity of the Carells and all

the people who donated to the capital campaign, the expertise of the people on the original board for the school, and its leadership, including the founding headmaster Hans Broekman, Bishop Kmiec said. "Hans Broekman had a terrific challenge to get kids to come," Bishop Kmiec said. "We didn't have a finished project, just a promise."

The promise has been fulfilled, Bishop Kmiec said. "It's first rate," both as a physical plant and academically. "But the school is more than a building, Bishop Kmiec told the students. "It's you guys."

Pope Week began with the viewing of the film "Nine Days That Changed The World," about John Paul II's return to his native Poland after his election as pope. The film was hosted by Father Jacek Kopera, O.P., the chaplain at Aquinas College and a native of Poland who lived through the momentous papal trip.

The week ended the evening of Oct. 22, with a discussion by two scholars, Joshua Davis of Chicago and Sister Mary Michael Fox, O.P., of Aquinas College, on "The Theological Trajectories of Pope John Paul II." Dr. Davis earned his doctorate in philosophy from Vanderbilt University and has taught at the University of the South and the University of Illinois. He specializes in continental philosophy and 20th century Roman Catholic thought. Sister Mary Michael is director of the Office of Catechetics for the Diocese of Nashville and has delivered various presentations and articles on spirituality and catechesis, which is the process of teaching the faith.



Headmaster Faustin Weber ■ 615-822-2375 ■ www.jp2hs.org



Photo by Rick Musacchio
Bishop Edward Kmiec, the former bishop of Nashville who established Pope John Paul II High School, greets Dean of Advancement Kevin Armshaw at a Mass for the feast day of the school's namesake, Blessed Pope John Paul II.

SCHOOL FOUNDER RETURNS FOR POPE WEEK

The highlight of Pope John Paul II High School's first ever Pope Week, a series of events to celebrate the legacy and the feast day of the school's namesake, was the all-school Mass on Monday, Oct. 22, concelebrated by Nashville Bishop David Choby and his predecessor Bishop Edward Kmiec, who helped to found the school.

"I've been a bishop for 30 years," said Bishop Kmiec, who left Nashville in 2004 when he was appointed Bishop of

Buffalo, N.Y. "Building JP2, the whole process starting with the planning, it's probably the most significant achievement in my time. ... It was such a large project to bring to fruition and it is flowering."

"We think it's important to celebrate our heritage, to remind us of the sacrifices of those who built JP2, and

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CALDWELL CLASSIC

JENNIFER SMITH

'OUR TOWN'

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View Points

CHORUS MEMBERS TRAVEL TO NEW YORK ON FALL BREAK

Thirty-two students from Pope John Paul II High School enjoyed a visit to New York City during fall break in early October. The trip had musical, educational and social elements, said Jj Ebelhar, the chair of the fine arts department at JPII and the school's choral director.

The trip began with the students, drawn from the Women's Chorus, the Chamber Choir and the Men's Chorus at JPII, singing at the noon Mass at St. Jean Baptiste Church in Manhattan.

The rest of the trip was dedicated to sightseeing, Ebelhar said. The students and adult chaperones visited Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State Building at night and the 9/11 Memorial. "It was deeply moving for all of us," Ebelhar said of the 9/11 Memorial. "It was a very, very powerful reminder of that day."

The group also explored their artistic interests, attending a production of the Broadway musical "Newsies." "We had an incredible tour of Lincoln Center," Ebelhar said. The students were given a backstage tour of an opera production, were able to sit in on a rehearsal by the New York Philharmonic and watched New York City Ballet dancers rehearsing.

The students who made the trip included: Gaby Aguilar, Amanda Bates, Beth Bender, Jenny Cawood, Maddy Deffendall, Olivia Drennan, Whit Drennan, Emily Ernst, Kenzie Farless, Abby Fox, Holly Gibbens, Teresa Gilstrap, Robin Hall, Mia Herrington, Loraine Iliia, Zach Janson, Madi Leonard, Rachael Leonard, Sarah Link, Matt Lucas, Sara Page, Jacqui Ramos, Jake Ramsey, Andie Rochester, Sydney Sabash, Abby Sturgill, Caroline Vaughn, Anna Veasey, Daniel Ward, Luke Whittington, Adam Wood and Jorge Moreno.



JPII chorus members sang at St. Jean Baptiste Church during a fall break trip to New York City.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLACEMENT EXAM

**DEC. 8
8 A.M. TO
NOON**

Daniel Edwards places in top 10 in UT Math Contest

Math teacher Bryan White presented sophomore Daniel Edwards a plaque and medal for his impressive achievement in The University of Tennessee, Knoxville's Pro2Serve Math Contest.

Daniel was one of several hundred high school students who took the Fermat I test and scored in the top 50. He then moved forward to test in the Fermat II test with 64 other students. His extensive knowledge in Algebra I and II, Geometry, and his uncommon creativity and originality in problem solving landed him in the top 10.

As a result, Daniel was awarded a four-year tuition scholarship of \$4,000 per year to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

We hope to highlight the high school careers of some of our students with reference to their "feeder school."

Summer Academy

Taryn Wallace and Garrett Taylor followed a well-worn path from Sumner Academy to Pope John Paul II High School when they showed up on campus in the summer as part of the freshman class. Sumner Academy is consistently one of the biggest feeder schools for JPII.

About 20 members of their eighth grade class are freshmen this year at JPII and both Taryn and Garrett are following older sisters to JPII. "My sister loves it here," Taryn said of her older sister Taylor, a junior. "She actually looks forward to coming here and seeing her friends."

Garrett's sister, Shelby, a senior, told her brother "it was tough at first but then you get used to it," he said.



Taryn Wallace

One adjustment for both Taryn and Garrett has been getting used to a much larger school. "It was a really small school," Taryn said of Sumner Academy. "Coming to JPII you see tons of people in the hallways."

"It has been weird seeing a lot of people here," Garrett added. But it's easy to meet people, he added. Garrett has met new friends in his classes and through participating in off-season workouts for the baseball and basketball teams.

Both Garrett and Taryn are taking several advanced level courses this year, and Garrett said Sumner Academy prepared them well for the academic rigor at JPII. "Coming from Sumner where it challenges you, you want to go to a school with good academics like this one," Taryn said.

Garrett encouraged prospective students considering coming to JPII to join Taryn and he at the school, "It's tough, but it pays off in the long run." Taryn added, "Be prepared, but you'll get used to it."

JPII people ... Taryn Wallace and Garrett Taylor!

TRICK PLAY TURNS INTO TREAT FOR JPII

The Bishop's Cup traveling trophy returned to Pope John Paul II High School on Friday, Oct. 5, after the Knights beat rival Father Ryan 10-6 in the two diocesan schools' annual meeting on the football field.

The Knights' victory ended a string of six consecutive wins for the Father Ryan Fighting Irish in the rivalry.

The two teams slugged it out toe-to-toe for more than three and a half quarters before the game turned on a trick play: a wide receiver reverse pass from senior Brad Jarreau to junior Jocquise Upton for a 75-yard touchdown.

The victory was "amazing," said Jarreau. "This game means a lot to everybody."

"It means an awful lot," echoed JPII Head Coach Jerry Joslin, who is in his first year at the Hendersonville school. "It's a credit to our seniors and coaches."

Coach Joslin had high praise for both his offense, which gained a total of 329 yards for the game, and his defense, which stopped the Irish twice in the red zone – once on the four-yard-line – to force two field goals by Ryan's Luke Strebler.

The goal line stand was "huge," Joslin said. "I was really, really proud of our defense and defensive coaches."

The Knights showed steady improvement through the season. In the final game of the regular season, the Knights nearly upset MBA, leading 17-3 at halftime, before the Big Red made a comeback in the second half. In the first round of the Division II-AA playoffs, the Knights staged a comeback against Briarcrest of Memphis behind a 38-yard touchdown run by senior Robert Davis, who recorded a career best 138 yards rushing in his last game for JPII, and a 77-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Jacob Jarreau to his older brother senior Brad Jarreau.

Briarcrest was able to score the deciding touchdown on the ensuing possession to win the game 21-14. The Knights ended their season with a 3-8 record.

GIRLS SOCCER

The Lady Knights soccer team blasted Hutchinson School 6-1 in the first round of the state play-offs on Saturday, Oct. 20, in their beautiful, new soccer stadium. Madison Taylor and Hallie Lycans had two goals each, Julia Meyer and Brandy Herrera each scored once, and Cameron Stewart and Brandy each scored an assist.

But the Lady Knights season came to an end in the next round with a 3-0 loss to top-seeded Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga.

After a long and difficult season marred by injury, JPII soccer coach and Dean of Students Mike McLaren had the Knights playing their best ball at the end of the season, including a tie with defending state champion Baylor and victories over region rivals Battle Ground Academy and Brentwood Academy.



Headmaster Faustin Weber and the players celebrate the Knights 10-6 win over Father Ryan to reclaim the Bishop's Cup.

CROSS COUNTRY

Junior Stephanie Simpson finished 33rd in the Division II-AA girls cross country state meet held Nov. 3 on the Steeplechase Course at Percy Warner Park in Nashville. She was the top finisher for the Lady Knights team.

Also running were for JPII and their finish were: junior Mary Margaret Blum, 64; senior Maddie Bologa, 67; sophomore Anna Fox, 68; junior Victoria Dolan, 69, and senior Holly Gibbens, 70. JPII finished 10th in the team standings.

For the JPII boys, senior Jack Duffin was the top finisher at 29th. Also running were: sophomore Michael Simpson, 54; junior Donald Kollai, 63; freshman Alex Teal, 68; sophomore Chance Kuban, 77; freshman Jordan Wirth, 82, and freshman Gregory Cannella, 84. The boys team finished 10th in the team standings.

GOLF

Pope John Paul II High School's girls golf team competed in the Division II-AA state tournament at WillowBrook Golf Club in Manchester on Oct. 1-2, but finished sixth of six teams in the team standings.

Sophomore Laura Knight was the top finisher for the Lady Knights in the individual standings finishing 13th with a two round score of 85-92-177.

She was followed by teammates senior Christina Lindahl, who finished 19th in the individual standings with a score of 92-100-192, and junior Chloe Kilpatrick, 22nd with a score of 102-108-210.

In the boys competition, JPII senior Connor McCarthy finished 21st in the individual standings with a score of 77-77-154.

RUDY BRINGS 'DREAM BIG' MESSAGE TO JPII

Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger, the Notre Dame football fan whose life story of following his dream of suiting up for the Fighting Irish became a popular movie, visited Pope John Paul II High School to deliver his message of dreaming big and never giving up. Ruettiger spoke to JPII's students during the school pep rally on Friday, Oct. 5, before the football game that night against rival Father Ryan High School.

"Rudy" was in Nashville for the last stop of the book tour for his new book "Rudy: My Story." He also is planning on making appearances on behalf of the Jason Foundation, which promotes awareness and education programs about teen suicide and is headquartered in Hendersonville.

"He asked what he could do to help," said Clark Flatt, president of the Jason Foundation. "The school has done so much on our behalf. We wanted to help them." When Jason Foundation officials suggested Rudy visit JPII, Flatt said, "he was very excited to talk to one of our premier Catholic high schools before a football game."

Rudy's story is familiar to Notre Dame and movie fans. He grew up a rabid fan of Notre Dame football, but his grades and size seem to make it impossible for him to ever be admitted to Notre Dame or play for the school's storied football program. He decided to pursue his dream, despite the long odds against success. Eventually, Rudy made it into Notre Dame and became a member of the football team's practice squad. He finally got a chance to play in a game in the last home game of the season.

Rudy talked to the JPII students about the importance of character.

HAND IN HAND FOUNDER HONORED

HAND IN HAND PROGRAM SEEKS STUDENTS

Pope John Paul II High School honored at a recent home football game the late Mollie Gavigan, who helped start the school's Hand in Hand program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Mrs. Gavigan was determined that her daughter, Jeanne, would receive a Catholic education just as her other children had. But she was having little success finding a Catholic school that would accept a student with intellectual disabilities. During the ceremony honoring Mrs. Gavigan, Headmaster Faustin Weber recounted the story of how she approached the school's founding headmaster Hans Broekman to ask that the school start a program for students with intellectual disabilities. "Mollie's message was simple," Mr. Weber said. "The Church is willing to give my daughter the sacraments, but it isn't willing to give her an education. I've tried everywhere."

Inspired by Mrs. Gavigan, Mr. Broekman and the JPII board decided to start the Hand in Hand program. Mrs. Gavigan helped recruit students for Hand in Hand and also to solicit donations to fund it.

Mrs. Gavigan, who died in 2006, was represented by her daughter Jeanne, a 2008 graduate of JPII, her husband Bill Gavigan, her son Bill Gavigan and two of her grandchildren.



Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger visits the JPII pep rally before the Father Ryan game.

"Doing the little things will lead to accomplishing big things," he said.

Flatt said the Jason Foundation plans on Rudy "doing school engagements with us talking about teen suicide prevention." Suicide is the third leading cause of death for people ages 10-24. The Jason Foundation offers teen suicide prevention and awareness programs across the country. The programs promote "not only awareness of the problem but awareness of the resources available to help," Flatt said.

For more information about the Jason Foundation, visit www.jasonfoundation.com.

The Hand in Hand program for students with intellectual disabilities is looking for two more students for the fall of 2013.

"We're designed to meet the needs of students with intellectual disabilities who wouldn't have access to the general curriculum without the support of the Hand in Hand program," said Adrienne Parks, director of the program. "We're looking for students that embrace the mission and goals of JPII, that have the social and behavioral skills to integrate into the school setting with some support, the ability to perform daily living skills independently, the ability to work in a group setting with some support."

The program currently has three students, but has the capacity for five, Mrs. Parks said. For more information about the program or to apply for next fall, contact Mrs. Parks at adrienne.parks@jp2hs.org or visit the program's website at jp2hs.org/hihprogram.

Those interested in making a donation to support the program can contact Jo Lind Weaver at jolind.weaver@jp2hs.org or call her at (615) 590-6008.